

**REMARKS**

The Office Action dated April 21, 2005 has been carefully considered. Claims 1-30 are pending. The following remarks are presented in a sincere attempt to place this Application in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and following remarks.

Claims 1-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of U.S. Publication 2002/0150096 to Sjoblom, U.S. Patent 6,469,983 B2 to Narayana et al. ("Narayana"), and U.S. Patent 5,862,335 to Welch, Jr. et al ("Welch"). Applicants respectfully submit that the Narayana reference is an improper prior art reference. Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) Narayana must be "an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent." The present Application was filed on January 10, 2001. The Narayana patent was filed on February 26, 2002. Therefore, it is improper to use Narayana as a prior art reference under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of Claims 1-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of Sjoblom, Narayana, and Welch be withdrawn and that Claims 1-30 be allowed.

Applicants have now made an earnest attempt to place this Application in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of Claims 1-30.

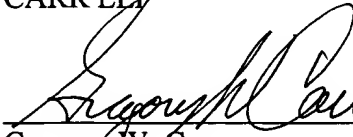
Applicants do not believe that any fees are due; however, in the event that any fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees due (other than issue fees), and to credit any overpayment made, in connection with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account No. 50-0605 of CARR LLP.

Should the Examiner deem that any further amendment is desirable to place this application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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